

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1293 - SB 1449

March 22, 2021

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits a school designated by the Department of Education (DOE) as a priority school from exceeding a maximum class size of one teacher for each fifteen students in kindergarten through grade two (K-2), beginning in the school year immediately following the designation until the school exits priority status or is no longer designated as a focus school on a subsequent list released by the DOE.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – Exceeds \$10,082,400/FY21-22 and Subsequent Years

Assumptions:

- Lowering the teacher ratio will impact classrooms that are not already below one teacher for each fifteen students in K-2 and will require additional teachers, benefits, and space as necessary to accommodate the new classes.
- In 2019, 276 schools met the criteria for a priority school.
- The average teacher salary, with benefits, is approximately \$64,631.
- In any given fiscal year, it is reasonably assumed that at least 75 percent, or 207 (276 x 75.0%), of priority schools will serve grades K-2.
- It is reasonably assumed that of those, at least 25 percent, or 52 (207 x 25.0%), will require one additional teacher for each grade level K-2, resulting in an additional 156 (52 x 3) teachers.
- The total increase in state expenditures is estimated to exceed \$10,082,436 (\$64,631 x 156) in FY21-22 and subsequent years.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner".

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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